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P A T E N T

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Letters Patent of:)
Gecht, et al.) Application No.: 09/688,457
Patent No.: 6,859,832) Examiner: V. Vu
Issued: February 22, 2005) Art Unit: 2154

For: **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE PROVISION OF REMOTE PRINTING
SERVICES OVER A NETWORK**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
**ATTENTION: Certificate
of Corrections Branch**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 ATTENTION: Certificate of Corrections Branch on March 14, 2005.

By: Carol Prentice
CAROL PRENTICE

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.322

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Certificate of Correction for U.S. Patent No. 6,859,832 which issued February 22, 2005. Upon reviewing the patent, the patentee noted two minor errors made by the Patent and Trademark Office in printing the patent.

A Certificate of Correction is enclosed, and reads as follows:

(1) In column 21, line 2 of claim 69, before the word "spooling" insert the word --the--.

(2) In column 23, line 6 of claim 97, after the word "server" insert the word --to--.

A complete listing of the claims as filed with our Amendment on April 27, 2004 is enclosed evidencing the missing words.

**Certificate
MAR 18 2005
of Correction**

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Patent No.: 6,859,832
Page 2

Since the errors for which a Certificate of Correction is sought were the result of Patent and Trademark Office mistakes, no fee is due (35 U.S.C. §254). The issuance of the enclosed Certificate of Correction is therefore respectfully requested.

Attached hereto, in duplicate, is Form PTO-1050, with at least one copy being suitable for printing.

Please send the Certificate to Patentee's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,



Barry R. Lipsitz
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: MGI-176
Date: March 14, 2005

MAR 21 2005

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,859,832

DATED : February 22, 2005

INVENTOR(S) : Gecht, et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below.

In column 21, line 2 of claim 69, before the word "spooling" insert the word --the--.

In column 23, line 6 of claim 97, after the word "server" insert the word --to--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

PATENT NO. 6,859,832

Attorney Barry R. Lipsitz
755 Main Street - Building 8
Monroe, CT 06468

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 6,859,832
DATED : February 22, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Gecht, et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In column 21, line 2 of claim 69, before the word "spooling" insert the word --the--.

In column 23, line 6 of claim 97, after the word "server" insert the word --to--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

PATENT NO. 6,859,832

Attorney Barry R. Lipsitz
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Monroe, CT 06468

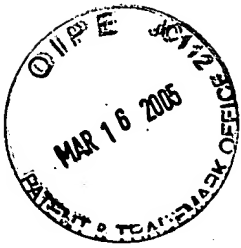
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Gecht, et al.) Examiner: V. Vu
)
Serial No.: 09/688,457) Art Unit: 2154
)
Filed: October 16, 2000)
)

For: **METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE PROVISION OF REMOTE PRINTING
SERVICES OVER A NETWORK**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
facsimile transmitted to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment,
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
22313-1450 on April 27, 2004.
Signature: Carol Prentice
Carol Prentice

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 12, 2004. Please
amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page
3 of this paper.

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Amendments to the Specification:

Amend the title on page 1, lines 1 and 2 of the application as follows:

“METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR THE PROVISION OF REMOTE PRINTING SERVICES
OVER A NETWORK”

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of providing printing services, comprising:
 - providing a spooling server capable of receiving and storing one or more print jobs from a print job source via a network; and
 - providing a printer polling device associated with a printer, said printer polling device capable of polling the spooling server via the network to identify a print job associated with the printer polling device.
2. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
 - transmitting an identified print job from the spooling server to the printer polling device;
 - and
 - printing said identified print job at a the printer ~~coupled to the printer polling device~~.
3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said printer polling device periodically polls the spooling server to identify a print job associated with the printer polling device.
4. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the network comprises:
 - at least one of a local area network, a wide area network, a global network, and the Internet.
5. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein:
 - said printer polling device is located within a gateway firewall; and
 - said spooling server is located outside said gateway firewall.

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✓6. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 5, wherein:

the print job is forwarded to the spooling server as web-style traffic and received at the printer polling device as web-style traffic.

✓7. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 5, wherein:

the print job is forwarded to the spooling server such that reconfiguration of the gateway firewall is not required.

✓8. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

the print job source is located at and in communication with a first local area network;

the printer polling device is located at and in communication with a second local area network; and

the spooling server is located outside of the first and second local area networks.

✓9. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 8, wherein:

the print job source communicates with the spooling server via a first gateway firewall which controls access to the first local area network; and

the printer polling device communicates with the spooling server via a second gateway firewall which controls access to the second local area network.

✓10. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device is one of (i) a stand-alone device connected to the printer via a standard printer port, (ii) integrated into the firmware of the printer, or (iii) integrated into the software of a network print server.

✓11. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

charging a fee to access the spooling server.

✓12. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 11, wherein the fee is based on one of print job size in bytes, print job size in number of pages, print job type, time for printing, time for storage, monthly fee, per use fee, lifetime membership, monthly membership, use of color, use of black and white, or any combination thereof.

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and white, page size, location, convenience, number of images, print quality, or image quality.

√13. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 11, wherein:

the fee is charged for at least one of providing a print job to the spooling server and retrieving a print job from the spooling server.

√14. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 11, wherein the fee can be paid via at least one of (i) a client device associated with the print job source; or (ii) the printer polling device.

√15. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

the spooling server stores the one or more print job(s) in at least one spooling queue.

√16. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for encryption of the print job at the print job source; and
providing for decryption of the print job at the printer polling device.

√17. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job comprises a document provided by a content provider.

√18. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein said content provider is one of a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, a document provider, a graphic arts provider, a notification service, an Internet content provider, a merchant, a financial institution, a government agency, or a shipping company.

√19. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein the print job is provided by the content provider on a subscription basis.

√20. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein a single print job is provided by the content provider for multiple users.

21. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device comprises:
- a user interface;
 - a connection to the network; and
 - a connection to the printer.
22. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
- storing each print job on the spooling server according to a personal identification number (PIN).
23. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, further comprising:
- communicating from the spooling server to the printer polling device a list of print jobs associated with the PIN which are stored at the spooling server; and
 - providing for the selection of a print job.
24. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, further comprising:
- storing a plurality of print jobs on the spooling server according to the PIN.
25. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 22, wherein:
- the PIN is provided to the spooling server via one of a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal;
 - the list of available print jobs is displayed on one of a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal; and
 - selection of an available print job is made via a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal.

26. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device is a

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portable device.

√27. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device may be operably associated with a variety of printer types.

√28. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job is provided to the spooling server without a pre-determined print destination.

√29. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for designation of a desired print location for the print job at the print job source;

providing for communication of the desired print location to the spooling server; and
printing the print job at the desired print location when the printer polling device at the desired print location polls the spooling server and identifies the print job.

√30. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for designation of a substantially specific time for printing a print job; and
making said print job available for printing from the spooling server only at the designated substantially specific time.

√31. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for a designated lifetime of the print job, wherein said print job will be stored only for the designated lifetime.

√32. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for a designated number of printings of said print job, wherein said print job can only be printed the designated number of times.

33. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 32, wherein:

the print job is one of a negotiable instrument, a stamp, a coupon, a certificate, a check, a

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unit of currency, a token, or a receipt.

34. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing for the designation of one or more recipients of said print job, wherein the print job can only be printed by the designated one or more recipients.

35. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job source is connected to the network using DHCP protocol.

36. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device is connected to the network using DHCP protocol.

37. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the printer polling device communicates printer status to the spooling server.

38. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 37, wherein the printer status comprises at least one of a printer ready indication, an on-line indication, toner level information, paper supply information, or error information.

39. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 37, further comprising:

notifying a printer operator when said printer status indicates that the printer requires attention.

40. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 39, further comprising:

providing the operator with vendor contact information to facilitate obtaining printer supplies or service.

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41. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 37, further comprising:

providing for automatic on-line ordering of printer supplies as required by printer status.

42. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job comprises at least one of a document, a poster, an image, a coupon, a ticket, a certificate, a check, a list, a schedule, a periodical, a unit of currency, a negotiable instrument, postage, a bill of lading, a lottery or gaming ticket, a token, food stamps, a license, a permit, a pass, a passport, a ballot, a citation, identification, a copy-protection key, a proof-of-purchase, a warranty, a receipt, a transcript, or a library card.

43. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

providing an agent program that provides a directory of documents to the spooling server, said agent program enabling a client device associated with the print job source to poll the spooling server to determine whether the spooling server requires a document from the directory to complete a print job; and

uploading the document from the client device to the spooling server.

44. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 43, further comprising:

communicating the directory to the printer polling device;

presenting the directory at the printer polling device; and

providing for selection of a print job from the directory.

45. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 44, wherein presenting said directory comprises one of a visual presentation or an audio presentation.

46. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 43, wherein the client device periodically polls the spooling server:

47. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein communications with the spooling server are enabled via at least one of a telephone, a personal digital assistant device, a computer, an Internet appliance, a web browser, or a dedicated terminal.

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48. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein communications with the spooling server are enabled via one of an audio interface or a visual interface.

√49. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
providing a communication device for providing status of the print job stored on the spooling server.

√50. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 49, wherein the status of the print job comprises at least one of filename, file size, author, creation date, print job lifetime, image, title, contents, personal identification number, recipient, job number, or reference number.

√51. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 49, wherein the communication device comprises one of a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal.

√52. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the print job source is one of a computer, a personal digital assistant device, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a telephone, or a dedicated terminal.

√53. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said printer polling device is capable of polling multiple spooling servers.

√54. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
providing for the communication between said spooling server and other servers; and
receiving a print job from at least one of the other servers at the spooling server.

55. (Currently amended) A system for providing printing services, comprising:
a spooling server capable of receiving and storing one or more print jobs from a print job source via a network; and
a printer polling device associated with a printer, said printer polling device capable of

polling the spooling server via the network to identify a print job associated with the printer polling device.

✓56. (Currently amended) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

an identified print job is transmitted from the spooling server to the printer polling device; and

said identified print job is printed at a the printer ~~coupled to the printer polling device~~.

✓57. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein said printer polling device periodically polls the spooling server to identify a print job associated with the printer polling device.

58. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the network comprises:

at least one of a local area network, a wide area network, a global network, and the Internet.

✓59. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

said printer polling device is located within a gateway firewall; and

said spooling server is located outside said gateway firewall.

60. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 59, wherein:

the print job is forwarded to the spooling server as web-style traffic and received at the printer polling device as web-style traffic.

61. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 59, wherein:

the print job is forwarded to the spooling server such that reconfiguration of the gateway firewall is not required.

62. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

the print job source is located at and in communication with a first local area network;

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the printer polling device is located at and in communication with a second local area network; and

the spooling server is located outside of the first and second local area networks.

¶63. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 62, wherein:

the print job source communicates with the spooling server via a first gateway firewall which controls access to the first local area network; and

the printer polling device communicates with the spooling server via a second gateway firewall which controls access to the second local area network.

64. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device is one of (i) a stand-alone device connected to the printer via a standard printer port, (ii) integrated into the firmware of the printer, or (iii) integrated into the software of a network print server.

65. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein a fee is charged to access the spooling server.

√66. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 65, wherein the fee is based on one of print job size in bytes, print job size in number of pages, print job type, time for printing, time for storage, monthly fee, per use fee, lifetime membership, monthly membership, use of color, use of black and white, page size, location, convenience, number of images, print quality, or image quality.

√67. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 65, wherein:

the fee is charged for at least one of providing a print job to the spooling server and retrieving a print job from the spooling server.

68. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 65, wherein the fee can be paid via at least one of (i) a client device associated with the print job source; or (ii) the printer polling device.

69. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

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the spooling server stores the one or more print job(s) in at least one spooling queue.

70. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, further comprising:

an encryption device for encryption of the print job at the print job source; and
a decryption device for decryption of the print job at the printer polling device.

71. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the print job comprises a document provided by a content provider.

72. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 71, wherein said content provider is one of a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, a document provider, a graphic arts provider, a notification service, an Internet content provider, a merchant, a financial institution, a government agency, or a shipping company.

73. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 71, wherein the print job is provided by the content provider on a subscription basis.

74. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 71, wherein a single print job is provided by the content provider for multiple users.

75. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device comprises:

a user interface;
a connection to the network; and
a connection to the printer.

76. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

each print job is stored on the spooling server according to a personal identification number (PIN).

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77. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 76, wherein:

the spooling server communicates to the printer polling device a list of print jobs associated with the PIN which are stored at the spooling server; and
the selection of a print job is provided for.

78. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 76, wherein:

a plurality of print jobs are stored on the spooling server according to the PIN.

79. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 76, wherein:

the PIN is provided to the spooling server via one of a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal;

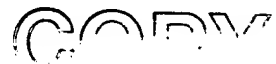
the list of available print jobs is displayed on one of a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal; and

selection of an available print job is made via a user interface associated with the printer polling device, a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal.

80. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device is a portable device.

81. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device may be operably associated with a variety of printer types.

82. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the print job is provided to the spooling server without a pre-determined print destination.



83. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

a desired print location for the print job is designated at the print job source;

the desired print location is communicated to the spooling server; and
the print job is printed at the desired print location when the printer polling device at the desired print location polls the spooling server and identifies the print job.

84. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

a substantially specific time for printing a print job is designated; and
said print job is made available for printing from the spooling server only at the designated substantially specific time.

85. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

a lifetime of the print job is designated, wherein said print job will be stored only for the designated lifetime.

86. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

a number of printings of said print job is designated, wherein said print job can only be printed the designated number of times.

87. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 86, wherein:

the print job is one of a negotiable instrument, a stamp, a coupon, a certificate, a check, a unit of currency, a token, or a receipt.

88. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

one or more recipients of said print job are designated, wherein the print job can only be printed by the designated one or more recipients.

89. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the print job source is connected to the network using DHCP protocol.

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90. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device is connected to the network using DHCP protocol.

91. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the printer polling device communicates printer status to the spooling server.

92. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 91, wherein the printer status comprises at least one of a printer ready indication, an on-line indication, toner level information, paper supply information, or error information.

93. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 91, wherein:
a printer operator is notified when said printer status indicates that the printer requires attention.

94. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 93, wherein:
the operator is provided with vendor contact information to facilitate obtaining printer supplies or service.

95. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 91, wherein:
automatic on-line ordering of printer supplies as required by printer status is provided.

96. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the print job comprises at least one of a document, a poster, an image, a coupon, a ticket, a certificate, a check, a list, a schedule, a periodical, a unit of currency, a negotiable instrument, postage, a bill of lading, a lottery or gaming ticket, a token, food stamps, a license, a permit, a pass, a passport, a ballot, a citation, identification, a copy-protection key, a proof-of-purchase, a warranty, a receipt, a transcript, or a library card.

97. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, further comprising:
an agent program that provides a directory of documents to the spooling server, said agent program enabling a client device associated with the print job source to poll the spooling server.

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to determine whether the spooling server requires a document from the directory to complete a print job; wherein:

the document is uploaded from the client device to the spooling server.

98. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 97, wherein:

the directory is communicated to the printer polling device;

the directory is presented at the printer polling device; and

a print job can be selected from the directory.

99. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 98, wherein said directory is presented via one of a visual presentation or an audio presentation.

100. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 97, wherein the client device periodically polls the spooling server.

101. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein communications with the spooling server are enabled via at least one of a telephone, a personal digital assistant device, a computer, an Internet appliance, a web browser, or a dedicated terminal.

102. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein communications with the spooling server are enabled via one of an audio interface or a visual interface.

103. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, further comprising:

a communication device for providing status of the print job stored on the spooling server.

104. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 103, wherein the status of the print job comprises at least one of filename, file size, author, creation date, print job lifetime, image, title, contents, personal identification number, recipient, job number, or reference number.

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105. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 103, wherein the communication device comprises one of a telephone, a computer, an Internet appliance, a facsimile machine, a scanner, a personal digital assistant device, or a dedicated terminal.

106. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein the print job source is one of a computer, a personal digital assistant device, an Internet appliance, a telephone, a facsimile machine, a scanner, or a dedicated terminal.

107. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein said printer polling device is capable of polling multiple spooling servers.

108. (Original) A system in accordance with claim 55, wherein:

said spooling server is capable of communicating with other servers; and

said spooling server is capable of receiving a print job from at least one of the other servers.

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REMARKS

Summary

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on February 12, 2004. Claims 1, 2, 55, and 56 are amended. Claims 1-108 are pending.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that the Examiner did not provide initialed copies of the 1449 forms provided with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 18, 2003 and February 9, 2004. Copies of these 1449 forms are attached hereto. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial each reference listed on the attached 1449 forms and return the initialed 1449 forms with the next Official Communication.

The Examiner has objected to the title of the invention as being non-descriptive. The title is amended herein as required by the Examiner to more closely define the invention set forth in the claims. Withdrawal of the objection to the title is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 10, 15, 21, 26-29, 37-38, 47-53, 55-58, 64, 69, 75, 80-83, 91-92, and 101-107 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yellepeddy (US 6,288,790).

Claims 5-9, 11-14, 16-20, 22-25, 30-36, 42-46, 54, 59-63, 65-68, 70-74, 76-79, 84-90, 96-100, and 108 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adamske (US 6,615,234) in view of Yellepeddy.

Claims 39-41 and 93-95 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yellepeddy in view of Manchala (US 6,405,178).

Applicants respectfully traverse the foregoing rejections in view of the amended claims and the following comments.

Discussion of Amended Claims

Claims 1 and 55 are amended to clarify that the printer polling device is associated with the printer. Claims 2 and 56 are amended to conform to the amendments to claims 1 and 55, respectively.

Discussion of Yellepeddy

Claims 1-4, 10, 15, 21, 26-29, 37-38, 47-53, 55-58, 64, 69, 75, 80-83, 91-92, and 101-107 stand rejected as being anticipated by Yellepeddy. This rejection is respectfully traversed. An

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anticipation rejection requires that each and every element of the claimed invention as set forth in the claim be provided in the cited reference. See *Akamai Technologies Inc. v. Cable & Wireless Internet Services Inc.*, 68 USPQ2d 1186 (CA FC 2003), and cases cited therein. As discussed in detail below, Yellepeddy does not meet the requirements for an anticipation rejection.

Yellepeddy discloses a mobile print support facility 200 which is implemented within a data processing system 102, and which includes a mobile print manager 202. Mobile print manager 202 receives print requests for printing services on a selected remote print server and/or printer. Mobile print manager may check the status of network connection 204 to the network containing the selected remote print server/printer upon detecting a print request within the data processing system containing mobile print facility 200 (Col. 3, lines 33-49). If the user selects mobile print mode, or if the remote printer is physically disconnected from the client data processing system or otherwise inaccessible, mobile print manager 202 creates a transient print queue 206 for the disconnected or remote print queue to which a job has been submitted. Transient print queue 206 is a local print queue within the data processing system containing mobile print facility 200, hidden from the end user. Once transient print queue 206 is created, all jobs submitted to the remote printer queue are spooled to transient print queue 206 associated with that remote printer. Mobile print manager 202 periodically checks the connection status of the remote printer queue and, when a connection to the remote printer queue becomes available and transient printer queue 206 has been released, initiates a replay of any print jobs contained in the transient print queue 206 to the selected remote printer queue (Col. 4, lines 11-38).

Yellepeddy does not disclose or remotely suggest a printer polling device associated with a printer, where the printer polling device is capable of polling the spooling server via the network to identify a print job associated with the printer polling device, as claimed by Applicants. The section of Yellepeddy relied on by the Examiner (i.e., Col. 8, lines 31-52) refers to polling by mobile print manager 202 within the client data processing system (i.e., the print job source) to determine whether remote printer queues at a remote printer, which correspond to transient printer queues at the client data processing system, have become available.

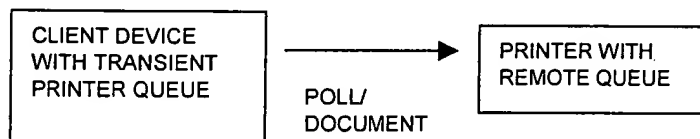
The transient printer queue 206 of Yellepeddy is contained within the client data processing system that generated the print job (i.e., the print job source). Therefore, the transient printer queue of Yellepeddy is not equivalent to the spooling server claimed by Applicants. With

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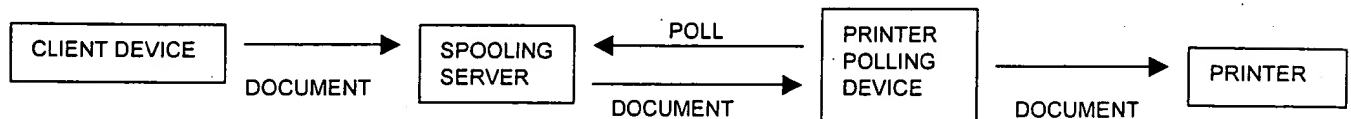
Applicants' claimed invention, the print job is sent to the spooling server from the print job source via a network. Therefore, Applicants' claimed spooling server is remote from the print job source. In contrast, in Yellepeddy, the client data processing system, the mobile print manager 202, and the transient printer queue are all part of the same device.

Yellepeddy does not disclose or remotely suggest the forwarding of a polling request to a spooling server over a network via a printer polling device associated with a printer to identify a print job stored at the spooling server, as claimed by Applicants. In fact, to the extent that polling occurs in Yellepeddy, it is in the opposite direction as compared to the polling of Applicants' claimed invention. The polling of Yellepeddy occurs from mobile print manager 202 of the data processing system to the printer itself. In contrast, Applicants' claimed polling request is forwarded from a printer polling device associated with the printer to the spooling server. The following diagram illustrates the difference in the polling between Yellepeddy and the present invention:

Yellepeddy Polling



Applicants' Claimed Polling



As illustrated in the foregoing diagram, in Yellepeddy, the client device polls the printer to determine if the printer is available, while in Applicants' claimed invention, polling occurs from the printer side of the network (rather than from the client side as in Yellepeddy) from a printer polling device associated with the printer to the spooling server, to identify whether any print jobs for that polling device are available on the spooling server.

Therefore, the purpose of the polling of Yellepeddy is also quite different than that of the

present invention. In particular, the mobile print manager 202 of Yellepeddy polls the printer to determine if the printer is connected to the network and the remote printer queue at the printer is available. In contrast, the polling request of the present invention is sent to the spooling server to identify a document associated with the printer polling device.

As Yellepeddy does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are believed to be improper, and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. See, *Akamai Technologies Inc., supra*.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not anticipated by and would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art in view of Yellepeddy, taken alone or in combination with any of the other prior art of record.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Further remarks regarding the asserted relationship between Applicants' claims and the prior art are not deemed necessary, in view of the amended claims and the above discussion. Applicants' silence as to any of the Examiner's comments is not indicative of an acquiescence to the stated grounds of rejection.

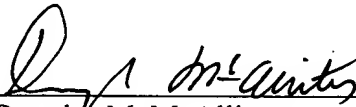
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Conclusion

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider this application, allow each of the presently pending claims, and to pass this application on to an early issue. If there are any remaining issues that need to be addressed in order to place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 27, 2004

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